

I have the honor to present to you, and through you to THE SENATE OF VICTORIA UNIVERSITY, the following report "as to the number and classes of students residing in Annesley Hall, and all matters of health, and of social, moral and religious life and educational work among the students" during the academic year 1904-1905.

1. Number and classes of students: There have been during the year 58 different residents, only 55 of whom have been here at one time. Of these, 41 were undergraduates of Victoria, 5 of Varsity, 2 were registered at Victoria in theology, 10 in special subjects. There are 13 Victoria students who held scholarships amounting to \$331.50, offered to Victoria students of good standing, who are either earning their own way or are Methodist Ministers' daughters. A committee of three assigns these and no one but its members and those giving and receiving the scholarships know who are in residence on these terms.

2. Health: Most of the residents have undergone the medical examination of Dr. Davis and have been assigned the exercise most suitable to them <sup>in</sup> physical culture, which, except during skating season, all but the seniors are required to attend. The healthy exercise out of doors on the open air rink, and the airiness of our building have been strong factors in keeping our young ladies well.

3. With your permission I would like to speak very frankly regarding certain matters bearing on the social, moral and religious life and educational work among the students. Two years are scarcely long enough to gain a thorough understanding of these things that be, but with your greater experience and knowledge you will be able to decide whether what follows is justifiable. If it is, let me ask your aid in the difficulties.

First, there is something wrong in the university life of the young women that they should leave at its close so nearly nervous wrecks as they are. My observation leads me to believe that the fault

lies neither in too heavy a curriculum nor in too severe study, but in the excess of societies, committees, and social life during the terms, which leave all earnest effort until the last three months of the year.

I have been told more than once that the social side of college life is the most valuable part of it, and that a high standing in the class list is neither to be coveted nor aimed at. This may be a reaction against a too onesided student life but certainly nothing can take the place of the discipline of good, conscientious, faithful, hard study throughout the year.

Secondly: Nor do I observe that the present social life of the students of Victoria College is of a high order. As long as students associate largely with students only, and are bound up in themselves and in each other, and do not meet with those older and maturer than themselves, they are not likely to develop the best character and culture. If it does not seem too bold, I should like to suggest some ways which might improve the existing circumstances among the young ladies at least.

1st. To lay more stress upon term work, especially that of the first term, and less on the final examination.

2nd. To remove social functions as far as possible outside college walls, reserving the college for scholastic purposes.

3rd. To abolish the "Bob" or at least to confine it entirely to the young men and exclude the young women from any part in it.

4th. To modify the social life bringing public and learned men and women into touch with our students that their outlook upon life may be broadened and their ideals enlarged by contact with the best minds.

In conclusion; We are sincerely thankful for the change in spirit in the Residence during the present year. It used to be said that to be a graduate of Oxford was a guarantee that a man was a gentleman. We hope that the day will not be far off, when to have spent four years in Annesley Hall will be a guarantee that those leaving it will be actively Christian, womanly, and courteous.

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The religious life of our Victoria women has not the deep spiritual power to be coveted, but there is an awakening to its need that is hopeful, and we can even now detect a slow but steady progress toward the standard we see before us.

May 9/06

TO THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

Ladies:-

I have the honor to present to you and through you to the Board of Regents the third annual report of Annesley Hall, the Woman's Residence of Victoria College.

We offer grateful thanks to a kind Providence who has permitted us to close the best year we have had, and we rejoice because we feel assured that there has been a steady advance towards the standard we have set before us. The various other annual reports which have come before you make it unnecessary for me to more than mention the good work done in each department.

The health of our students has been good, and in neither of the preceding years have they passed through the strain of examinations with so little serious result, or been so diligent in their studies throughout the whole year, or shown so much self control.

As you are aware the fees were raised for this year from four dollars to four and a half per week in double rooms, and from five to six in single rooms, and this increase of income has left us a fair bank account, but one which will only carry us through the remainder of the year and leave enough for the replenishing of the wear and tear in the near future. From October 04 - October 05, we were \$300 behind. This year we shall be ahead. I am glad to say that the property is in good condition, for repairs both within and without have been promptly made. The outside changes have been the erection of two fences, one beside the tennis court, the other outside the fence at the corner of Czar Street and Queen's Park. Within some pieces of furniture already enumerated have been purchased.

Our House has been filled all year, and there have been only two changes in the personnel of the students, while we have had from eight to ten in other years. We have accommodated 56 all year, with 2 more who came in for a short time during the term, and of these 58, 48 were full undergraduates, 5 in the 4th year, 18 in the 3rd, 12 in the 2nd, 13 in the 1st, 7 were registered as occasional students at Victoria, one was taking Kindergarten work, and two Domestic Science.

Of the undergraduates, 27 took Modern Languages, 8 Household Science, 5 the General Course, 3 Mathematics and Physics, 2 Political Science, 1 Classics. There were 49 Methodists, 4 Presbyterians, 4 Episcopalians, 1 Baptist, 24 were aged twenty or under, and only six above 23. Eight students have profited by the scholarships, and as the fees have been higher, the amount of these has been greater viz., \$403.00 this year in contrast with \$344 last year.

The Residence has now been open three years, a long enough period to learn the conditions and in some manner judge the administration. A short history of these three years will be of interest. We opened the Hall in the fall of 1903 with 34 students at Victoria, 8 at University College, 13 specialists, many studying music - 55 young people in all, most of whom were strangers to each other, of diverse dispositions and interests, unaccustomed to residence life, most away from home restraint for the first time and most very young. The building was unfinished, the workmen still in it, not a room but the dining-room on the ground floor ready for use. In these circumstances service was scarce and poor and ever changing. This was the first large residence in Canada, many of its conditions were unlike those in the two, half its size, then in existence, the Royal Victoria College of Montreal, and St. Hilda's of Trinity, both of which began as colleges, and not residences. There was no precedent to follow, all details had to be worked out by those in charge, and altogether, despite the loyal help of the senior students of 1904 it was a year never to be forgotten by those who shouldered the responsibility of it. The most vital question was that of government. Think what it was to produce and carry out any form of control when the one point of contact between the ruler and the ruled was the disagreeable one of discipline, and that of a stranger toward 55 strangers whose confidence was yet to be won. At the end of the first year the problem presented aspects unforeseen, there was general rebellion against all control, and this was naturally enough directed against the one who stood in the way of their doing as they pleased.

Certainly, young people could not be left to act according

to, their own sweet wills, there were difficulties peculiar to a co-educational college, there had to be more liberty than in a boarding school, the students had to learn that they were not to follow their own caprices irrespective of the common wellbeing, but were to yield obedience to the fundamental principles of recognized law, and that this was the only real basis of liberty. How was this to be accomplished? In history responsible government had proven the one best fitted to the needs of man, and his highest development, and yet there had always been a misuse of liberty in the transition to it.

In residences with more than thirty persons, the life had to be that of the community, not that of the home. One person or even two could not come into sufficiently intimate relationship with 55 persons whose interests lay in a college outside their home life, to make a patriarchal form of government successful.

Another system had to be adopted and the second year the students assumed some responsibility in their own conduct. This met with better success than the former plan, but as there were but three seniors and three juniors, there were not enough who were sufficiently mature to enforce the regulations made. This was what is called a limited form of student government, in which the final judgment rested with the Dean, and no regulation could be finally decided upon without her consent.

But more was needed than a form of government. What we found most hard to contend with was a lack of self sacrifice and self control, and an inclination to settle matters on a basis of personal pleasure or rights, instead of on that of conscience and consideration of the rights of others, and these could be set right only by a change of spirit. I am glad to say that the many and earnest prayers for this were answered and a new life has so changed the dispositions of the resident members of next year's senior class, that we look forward to the coming year with hope and confidence.

The Student Volunteer Convention at Nashville, which through the generosity of many friends, was attended by a number of our young women, strengthened what had already been begun. For this we are truly grateful.

I wish also to speak of the aid it has already been in the position of Dean to hold a lectureship in the College, and to have been an examiner in the University examinations.

Three years have passed, much has been accomplished, but it is only a beginning. There has been a spiritual awakening of those of the upper years, our young women have grown in unselfishness, strength of character, insight and womanliness, and although the liberty granted them on trial has been abused by a few, it has not been by the many. A higher ideal of conduct in morals and manners prevails over that of three years ago. We have had success in finance, success in numbers, (there are even now more applications for Annesley Hall for next year more than it will accommodate, six of these are full undergraduates, seven are occasional students) and we feel assured that the slow but steady progress of the past will continue in the future, as we seek the attainment of the real aim and object of Annesley Hall, which is not success in finance or numbers, but in the character of the young women who leave its halls.



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